

## Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 241886

EXDIS/TOSEC 585

FOL REPEAT STATE 241886 SENT ACTION TEHRAN INFO ROME NOV 2, 1974

QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 241886

EXDIS TOSEC 585

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: VAT, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH THE POPE: NOV 5, 1974:

BRIEFING PAPER -

REF: ROME 15174 (EXDIS)

1. ANALYSIS/BACKGROUND

2. YOU LAST MET POPE PAUL JULY 6, 1974, DURING YOUR VISIT TO ROME: ARCHBISHOP AGOSTINO CASAROLI, THE VATICAN FOREIGN MINISTER AND HENRY CABOT LODGE, THE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL ENVOY TO THE VATICAN, WERE PRESENT. THE MIDDLE EAST AND JERUSALEM WERE THE MAIN TOPICS. THE POPE DESCRIBED JERUSALEM AS VERY DELICATE AND IMPORTANT TO THE HOLY SEE. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE UNDERSTAND HE GAVE YOU A MEMORANDUM FROM A NUMBER OF  
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RELIGIOUS SECTS BUT DID NOT PRESS FOR ACTION ON IT. THE

POPE FEARED IF JERUSALEM CAME LAST IN THE MIDDLE EAST DISCUSSIONS, IT WOULD BE PREJUDICED BY WHAT CAME BEFORE. OUR POSITION WAS THAT IT SHOULD BE DONE SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE SETTLEMENT OF THE WEST BANK PROBLEM, AND THAT NO PERMANENT SOLUTION OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM WAS POSSIBLE WITHOUT JERUSALEM.

2. THE POPE SUBMITTED REQUESTS FROM AFRICAN AND ARAB NATIONS ON REFUGEES AND EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN THAT LEBANON WOULD BE "ABSORBED". WE EMPHASIZED OUR COMMITMENT TO LEBANON'S

INTEGRITY BUT POINTED OUT THAT TERRORIST RAIDS FROM LEBANESE SOIL MADE THE SITUATION DIFFICULT. THE POPE WAS TOLD THE US PLANNED TO ESTABLISH "A POLITICAL CONTACT" WITH THE PALESTINIANS IN AUGUST AND THAT IF LEBANON COULD RESTRAIN THE PALESTINIAN TERRORISTS, THE US WOULD DO ITS BEST TO RESTRAIN THE ISRAELIS.

4. ON ITALY AND EUROPE, YOU SAID ITALY WAS OF GREAT CONCERN TO THE US AND DESCRIBED OUR OPPOSITION TO ANY FURTHER OPENING TO THE LEFT IN ITALY. THE POPE REPORTEDLY WAS IMPRESSED BY THIS DECLARATION.

5. WE UNDERSTAND THE POPE WAS VERY SATISFIED WITH THE MEETING WITH YOU. HE REPORTEDLY WAS REASSURED THAT YOUR DESCRIPTION OF DETENTE DID NOT IMPLY ANY LOWERING OF THE US GUARD TOWARD THE SOVIETS.

6. VATICAN INTERESTS: IF TIME PERMITS, WE EXPECT THE POPE WILL SEEK YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE FOLLOWING TOPICS, LISTED IN PRIORITY ORDER:

-- THE MIDDLE EAST, ESPECIALLY JERUSALEM AND THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE SINCE THE RABAT CONFERENCE;

-- YOUR MOSCOW TALKS, PARTICULARLY SALT, MBFR, AND CSCE;

-- YOUR VISIT TO SOUTH ASIA, ESPECIALLY THE THREAT OF FAMINE IN THE SUBCONTINENT;

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-- THE GREECE/TURKEY/CYPRUS SITUATION. (THE VATICAN HAS EXPRESSED DEEP CONCERN WITH THE ALTERATION OF THE BALANCE BETWEEN THE TWO COMMUNITIES AND THE SUBSEQUENT CONFLICT. IT HOPES THE INDEPENDENCE, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, AND CONSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE ISLAND CAN BE PRESERVED);

-- YOUR BUCHAREST AND BELGRADE STOPS, PARTICULARLY POSSIBLE SCENARIOS IN POST-TITO YUGOSLAVIA. (POPE PAUL HAS BEEN

ACTIVE IN IMPROVING VATICAN/EAST EUROPEAN RELATIONS.  
CASAROLI HAS BEEN HIS MAJOR DIPLOMAT IN THIS AREA);

-- VIETNAM. (PAPAL CONCERN OVER SOUTH VIETNAM CONTINUES.  
IN SEPTEMBER CASAROLI SOUGHT AND RECEIVED THE US ESTIMATE  
OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE MILITARY SITUATION. EARLIER,  
IN APRIL, THE HOLY SEE REFUSED A PRG DELEGATION A PAPAL  
AUDIENCE BUT CASAROLI TOLD US HE SEES NO GROUNDS ON WHICH  
THE VATICAN CAN CONTINUE TO REFUSE SUCH REQUESTS IF  
RENEWED.)

7. ISSUES/TALKING POINTS

8. JERUSALEM

9. VATICAN POSITION

10. THE HOLY SEE AGREES JERUSALEM IS THE MOST DIFFICULT  
PROBLEM OF THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE TALKS AND BELIEVES VATICAN  
CAN AT THE PROPER TIME PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN ITS SETTLE-  
MENT.

11. THE VATICAN WOULD BE GRATIFIED IF JERUSALEM WERE  
PROTECTED BY AN INTERNATIONAL STATUTE WITH EQUALITY OF  
RIGHTS FOR THE THREE RELIGIONS. THE HOLY SEE WISHES TO  
AVOID THE SITUATION IN WHICH ONE RELIGIOUS GROUP IS MASTER  
AND OTHERS GUESTS. CASAROLI HAS STRESSED THAT INTER-  
NATIONALIZATION IS NOT REPEAT NOT THE ONLY SOLUTION, BUT A  
BILATERAL ARRANGEMENT IN ITSELF COULD NOT REPEAT NOT MEET  
THE CONCERNS OF ALL INTERESTED PARTIES.

12. IN A RECENT PUBLIC STATEMENT, THE POPE REPEATED THE  
VATICAN DESIRE FOR "AN APPROPRIATE STATUTE WITH AN INTER-  
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NATIONAL GUARANTEE FOR...JERUSALEM AND AN ADEQUATE JURIDI-  
CAL GUARDIANSHIP OF THE HOLY PLACES." HE ALSO CALLED "A  
JUST AND EQUITABLE SETTLEMENT OF THE REFUGEE POPULATIONS...  
ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY." VATICAN SOURCES CLAIM THE POPE IS  
DEFINITELY NOT NOW INSISTING ON INTERNATIONALIZATION.

13. US POSITION

14. -- WE AGREE THAT DETERMINATION OF THE ULTIMATE STATUS  
OF JERUSALEM IS AN INTEGRAL AND A MOST DIFFICULT PART OF  
THE ENTIRE COMPLEX OF ARAB-ISRAEL ISSUES. THE ULTIMATE  
STATUS OF JERUSALEM MUST BE DETERMINED IN THE CONTEXT OF  
A FINAL SETTLEMENT AND MUST BE BASED ON AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE PARTIES.

15. -- WHILE THE US HAS NEVER RECOGNIZED EITHER ISRAELI OR JORDANIAN CLAIMS TO SOVEREIGNTY IN JERUSALEM, WE HAVE DEALT ON A PRACTICAL BASIS WITH BOTH ISRAEL AND, UNTIL 1967, JORDAN IN THEIR RESPECTIVE SECTORS.

16. -- SINCE JUNE 1967 WE HAVE NOT AGREED WITH UNILATERAL ISRAELI ACTIONS IN THE PART OF JERUSALEM FORMERLY UNDER JORDANIAN CONTROL WHICH TEND TO CREATE BASIC CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION AND NATURE OF THE CITY OR TO PREJUDGE ITS FINAL STATUS.

17. -- THOUGH WE BELIEVE ISRAEL'S RESPECT FOR THE HOLY

PLACES IN JERUSALEM HAS BEEN EXEMPLARY, WE ARE AWARE OF THE POULATION DRIFT AWAY FROM ARAB JERUSALEM, PARTICULARLY OF ARAB CHRISTIANS.

18. -- WE SUPPORT CERTAIN PRINCIPLES WHICH WE BELIEVE WOULD PROVIDE AN EQUITABLE BASIS FOR JERUSALEM'S FUTURE:

A) A UNIFIED CITY WITH NO RESTRICTIONS ON THE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS AND GOODS;

B) OPEN ACCESS FOR PERSONS OF ALL FAITHS AND NATIONALITIES;

C) THE CITY'S ADMINISTRATION SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE  
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INTERESTS OF ALL ITS INHABITANTS AND OF THE WIDER JEWISH, MUSLIM AND CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES;

D) THERE SHOULD BE ROLES FOR BOTH JEWS AND ARABS IN THE CIVIC, ECONOMIC AND RELIGIOUS LIFE OF THE CITY. INGERSOLL

UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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